

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that today Maliena Slaby, 32, of Arcadia, Wisconsin, pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court in Madison to possession of a forged security.

During the plea hearing, Slaby admitted that during her employment in the accounting department of the Fastenal Company of Winona, Minnesota, she forged company checks, making the checks payable to herself in the amount of approximately \$197,000. She cashed the checks and used the funds for her personal benefit.

Slaby is scheduled to be sentenced on May 1, 2007 at 1:15 p.m. She faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and the entry of an appropriate restitution order.

The charges against Maliena Slaby were the result of an investigation conducted by the La Crosse Resident Agency of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Grant C. Johnson.

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